



**National Cancer Institute
Office of Education and Special Initiatives**

MISSION

The Office of Education and Special Initiatives (OESI) supports the National Cancer Institute (NCI) priorities through activities that span NCI programs and include the participation of health care providers, professional societies, patient groups, federal agencies, and the public. The OESI develops, implements and evaluates education programs over the entire cancer continuum, including prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship and palliative care. The office serves as a focus for NCI-wide clinical trial issues, including the management of the clinical trials web site and oversight of the clinical trials coverage agreements. OESI also coordinates trans-NCI initiatives in the areas of health policy and medical ethics.

Patient and Family Education Branch

Develops culturally relevant programs to assist patients and their families in making informed decisions about cancer care, including effective management of treatment side effects, psychosocial issues, recurrence and recovery, and end-of-life issues.

Professional Continuing Education Branch

Develops programs to promote life-long learning in the areas of cancer patient care, new scientific technologies and clinical trials research. Uses both traditional teaching strategies and e-learning technology to reach a broad spectrum of health professionals. The branch provides continuing education credits for physicians, nurses and other health care professionals through collaboration with outside organizations.

Public and Survivor Education Section

Develops culturally relevant programs for patient advocates, cancer survivors, and individuals at risk for cancer with a focus on the medically underserved. Programs focus on immediate post-treatment needs, cancer risk, prevention and screening, and clinical trials.

Clinical Trials Initiatives Section

Collaborates with NCI staff, outside agencies and professional organizations on initiatives that increase investigator and patient participation in clinical trials. The section works with public and private health plans to develop coverage agreements for participation in clinical trials and programs to promote these agreements.

Clinical Trials Web Site Team

Collaborates with NCI offices and divisions to ensure that comprehensive clinical trials information is packaged effectively for web dissemination to the public and to health professionals. The team establishes and maintains editorial and technical systems that assure the timely posting of authoritative cancer trial-related information, and that help visitors find relevant trials via NCI's clinical trials database (PDQ).

Current Staff:

Mary McCabe	Director
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Vacant	Professional Continuing Education
Vacant	Chief, Patient and Family Education
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Lorna Patrick	Patient and Family Education
Margo Michaels	Head, Public and Survivor Education
Andrea Denicoff	Clinical Trials Agreements
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NCI web site: <http://www.cancer.gov/>
cancerTrials web site: <http://cancerTrials.nci.nih.gov/>